7. Eastern Region System Strengthening Scheme-I

8. North-East-Northern/Western Region Interconnector-I

(c) The Ranchi-Rourkela-Raigarh-Raipur 400 kV D/C line, to be implemented under the East-West Transmission Corridor Strengthening Scheme, would facilitate strengthening of Transmission System in Western and Eastern Regions including the State of Orissa. Orissa will also be a beneficiary from the Eastern Region System Strengthening Scheme-I.

(d) Under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), Government has targeted electrification of all the un-electrified villages in the country, including the State of Orissa, by the year 2009.

Power generation capacity addition targets

1454. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a major shortfall in addition to power generation capacity during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof indiciating the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is proposed to carry forward the shortfall to the Eleventh Plan period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) At the time of mid-term appraisal based on the project preparedness, the Planning Commission assessed that 31,290 MW is feasible against the original target of 41,110 MW during the 10th Plan. As against this, a capacity of about 23,250 MW is likely to be commissioned during 10th Plan.

(b) The main reasons for shortfall in achieving the 10th Plan capacity addition targets are given below:

(i) The Plan originally envisaged introduction of Super critical thermal power projects in the country. However, these projects aggregating 3960 MW could not be taken up due to delay in technology tie-up.

(ii) Hydro projects aggregating over 6200 MW slipped mainly due to delay in clearances, investment decision, award of works, geological

surprises and court cases.

(iii) Private projects aggregating about 1200 MW could not materialize as there was delay in obtaining financial closure of these projects.

(iv) In case of projects aggregating over 5000 MW date fo commissioning as per contractual commitment was not adhered to and these projects slipped due to delay in critical supplies by the equipment manufacturers.

(v) Due to non-availability of adequate gas, commissioning of projects aggregating over 1700 MW was delayed and another 1450 MW worth projects could not be taken up.

(c) and (d) Keeping the capacity of 23,250 MW which is likely to be added during 10th Plan, a capacity addition of over 76,000 MW has been proposed for the XI Plan.

Revamp of power regulation

1455. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to revamp power regulation by replacing existing regulators with a new regulatory regime to purge the existing inefficient regime, and select a new set of regulators by instituting appropriate eligibility criteria and appointing them through a transparent process;

(b) if so, the details of the new intiatives;

(c) whether the poor regulatory environment in the country is of major concern to private investors in the power sector; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps Government propose to take to encourage private investors in the field of power generation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) No, Sir. The Electricity Act, 2003 already has provisions rgarding eligibility criteria and process of selection of the Chairperson and the Members of the Electricity Regulatory Commission through a broad based Selection Committee.